GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
FINANCE
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:99
ANSWERED ON:25.07.2003
SPECIAL FERA COURTS
RAM TAHAL CHOUDHARY;SHIVAJI MANE

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of FERA cases which are more than five years old pending in the courts as on date, State-wise;

(b) whether the Government are contemplating to constitute special courts for speedy disposal of these cases;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the other steps taken for the earliest disposal of these cases?

Answer

FINANCE MINISTER (SHRI JASWANT SINGH)

(a) to (e) : A statement is placed on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT IN REPLY TO LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 99 FOR 25TH JULY, 2003

(a) to (c) As on 30 June, 2003, a total of 1284 cases under Foreign Exchange Regulation Act, 1973 were pending in Trial Courts, all over India, for over five years. The Zone-wise break-up of such cases along with the States covered under each Zone is given at Annexure.

The government had mooted a proposal for setting up of Special Courts during 1998-99 in Mumbai and Delhi fordealing with cases registered under FERA, 1973. However, the response of the concerned States was not encouraging in view of the fact that FERA has since been repealed and replaced by a new legislation - Foreign Exchange Management Act, 1999.

The progress of disposal of FERA cases is regularly monitoredby the Directorate of Enforcement, and Public Prosecutors have been advised to take necessary steps for their speedy disposal.

ANNEXURE - I

Name of the Zone	State/Regions covered	Number of FERA cases pending trial for over 5 years.
1. Ahmedabad	Gujarat	03
2. Bangalore	Karnataka & Andhra Pradesh	07
3. Chennai	Tamil Nadu, Kerala & Pondicherry	83
4. Delhi	Rajasthan, Western U.P., Western Madhya Pradesh, Uttranchal & Delhi	396

5.	Kolkata	West Bengal,Bihar, Jharkhand,Orissa, Chhattisgarh, Eastern Madhya Pradesh,Eastern U.P., North Eastern States	165
6.	Jalandhar	Punjab, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu & Kashmir, Chandigarh	136
7.	Mumbai	Maharashtra & Goa	494
	TOTAL		1284